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L. S. BARNES, President
CHAS. H. FISHER, Vice-President
DORA C. ANDRESEN, Sec. and Treas.

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WOULD MAKE CHURCH SOCIAL CENTER

In yesterday's issue of the Capital Journal was a communication from Rev. Richard F. Tischer, which is well worthy of perusal and study. It shows in a remarkable degree the changes which have taken place in the churches within the past twenty years, and indicates the wonderful broadening of the religious mind.

Mr. Tischer says that if he could have his way as a minister he would provide his church with a social hall, a pool and billiard table for both boys and girls and with a gymnasium for all indoor sports. He goes even farther in saying he would arrange under proper supervision, dancing parties where the young could mingle and indulge their natural tastes for social pleasures.

He pertinently asks why or wherein dancing is any more immoral than coasting or skating, and thinks the church and the schools should provide the proper avenues, places and times for such education and enjoyment.

All this sounds natural and rational, and is a much better solution of the problem as to what we shall do with our boys and girls than the arbitrary condemning of all such amusements simply because they are not properly safeguarded.

Nature has placed in the young of all kinds whether "kids" or kittens the desire to play, to exercise and develop. It is instinctive for the young of all animals to get together and to find in each others company, pleasure and amusement.

In times past there was a strict condemnation of all these natural instincts. It was an unreasoning, arbitrary dictatorial, "Thou shalt not."

Because gambling is an evil, cards were condemned. Because indiscriminate dances led to mischief all dancing was tabooed. Because the violin furnished the music at these dances the "fiddle" became the seat and source of iniquity.

Yet cards are now seen in every home. The dance has lost its bad reputation and the violin is now a part of most church services.

It is not so long ago that to the young the church was an awesome and gloomy place. Inside its doors no smile could be indulged in, no worldly thought enter. God was made to appear to the young as an unforgiving and terrible judge who had no sympathy with or love for them. How different today, and how infinitely better. They are now taught that God is tenderness and love, a smiling sympathetic friend who shares their pleasures and rejoices in their happiness. He is no longer a stern parent to be feared only, but a warm, close friend in whom they can confide and on whose affection they can rely.

The world is no longer a vale of tears, with every pathway strewn with brambles or bordered with thorns, but a great sunny, flower-decked home. The air is filled with the music of joyous birds and fragrant with the incense of millions of blossoms. Color and light, music and beauty, fragrance, sweetness, warmth, love, all these are divine attributes and all given by a loving father for the pleasure and enjoyment of His children.

Mr. Tischer is right in his idea that expression rather than suppression is the remedy, and that provision for the harmless exercise of social instincts rather than arbitrary condemnation is the true solution of the problem.

It would be an experiment well worth trying, and let us hope some way may be found by which Mr. Tischer's theory can be given a thorough practical test.

The Dalles fruit-growers are peeved because a splendid exhibit of fruit they sent to the Panama Exposition failed to show up in the Wasco county exhibit. They are further roiled because that same fine exhibit by some "devilish cantrip sleight" got mixed up with a western Oregon exhibit and the big apples and other showy fruits that were born and bred in "old Wasco", were made to carry cards "from the Willamette Valley, Oregon, where every prospect pleases." Can you blame the Dallesites for completing the couplet and adding "And only man is vile."

Senator Stone's answer to Senator Lippitt who boasted that "if he was president there would have been an American army in Mexico in 24 hours" was deserved. Senator Lippitt like so many in the American "House of Lords" represents only the vested interests. The American people are to such as he an unknown race. His indignation over the killing of Americans by Mexicans was the veriest balderdash for the common people are something outside of his vision. He would have war, but neither he nor one of the class he represents would help fight that war, nor would they care how many Americans lost their lives therein. He and his class would stay at home and speculate on the necessities of the country just as they did during the civil war, when their patriotism was shown by their success in depreciating the country's currency. He and his kind are rabid fighters—by proxy.

Wheat in Liverpool was quoted Wednesday at \$2.02 per bushel, or about \$1.00 higher than here in the valley. This difference shows how the shipowners are taking practically all the increased price due to the war. Somehow it is always managed so the farmer gets about the same old price, regardless of what the consumer pays. Some day the farmers will get well organized, become the one biggest business and dictate their own prices. That is they would do this if they were big business men, which, fortunately for the consumer, they are not.

Of course no good Salemite would ever think of trying to deceive anyone, but still what's the use of talking about Oregon's winter climate when tourists are only expected to visit us during the summer. Then when those pictures were taken, it was not raining very hard, and it was not necessary to have an umbrella up, at least while the camera man was around. There is a difference between deceit and caution just as there is between the naked and the nude, and fortunately most of us understand this.

For the peace of this country should not Henry Ford abandon his peace delegates and leave them stranded in Stockholm. Still so far Sweden and the United States are on friendly terms, and the Swedes have done nothing that would justify even Ford treating them that way. However, "charity begins at home" and the Swedes cannot understand English.

Hoke Smith, the fiery senator from Georgia, has discovered that the British are "perpetual robbers" and Germany "guilty of murder." Maybe Hoke draws the indictment too strong and does not include enough parties. Make the charge manslaughter Hoke and indict all the warring nations. The offense can be easily proved.

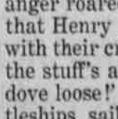
Now the dispute is on again as to whether or not General Sherman made the assertion credited to him that "War is Hell." It is a useless discussion for the simple reason that it can neither be proven nor disproved. It doesn't matter anyway whether he said it or not, for it is the truth, is mighty and must prevail.

The English should stop discussing German atrocities on sea or land until they put a stop to the doggerel being written in the trenches, and worse yet, printed in other wire respectable newspapers. One cannot but feel it is a case of "lead astray" when these trench literary fellows are missed.



LOOKING AHEAD

In future years we will not boast, as we are boasting now, that we had forebears in the host upon the Mayflower's prow. Nor will we boast of Norman blood, or how our sires shed gore, when they crossed o'er the raging flood, with Bill the Conqueror. We'll say, when gathered round the board, "By Woden and by Thor" Our fathers sailed with Henry Ford, and put an end to war! They cranked their ship with fiery zeal, and sailed for Peace's sake, with Henry at the steering wheel, his foot upon the brake. Across the briny deep they slid, and twanged their peaceful lyres, and when the ship began to skid, they calmly changed the tires. The monarchs in their anger roared, above the martial din, 'What have we done that Henry Ford should come to rub it in?' The soldiers, with their crimsoned hands, remarked, 'By Mother Goose, the stuff's all off when Henry lands, and turns his white dove loose!' The wearied armies lost their grip, the battalions sailed home, when Henry toiled his good tin tip across the leagues of foam. And o'er the world the White Dove soared, the Dove men panted for; our fathers sailed with Henry Ford, and put the lid on war."

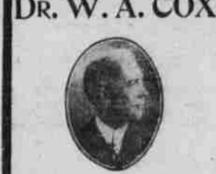


NEGRO REFUSES TO TELL
Seattle Wash., Jan. 22.—Felix Crane, negro, alleged boss of Seattle's underworld, "the goat of the mighty" is under sentence today to serve two and a half to five years at Walla Walla.

HATCHED FROM AN EGG
Oregon City, Or., Jan. 22.—Because of an argument over a hard boiled egg, Ambrose Gesta is in the county jail here today. He told his wife that eggs were too expensive to put in their daughter's lunch. Gesta is an Italian. His wife is a German. The egg was all that was necessary to start hostilities. The wife was victorious.

DR. W. A. COX
PAINLESS DENTIST
303 State Street
SALEM, ORE.
For almost a month I have asked the public to estimate how many extracted teeth are in the show case at the entrance to my office and have received very few answers. WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF? It costs you nothing and you may get one of the three prizes. Remember the 50 per cent cut on dental work during the balance of this month. GUARANTEE WORK---LADY ATTENDANT
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What's the Matter With Salem People?

Are You Suspicious?

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Portland Stock Market

Stays Firm and Strong

Today—The cattle market has been inactive since Monday, only a few loads being received and moved at steady prices. The market has a rather weak tone, buyers having a surplus of supplies. Choice light steers are quoted today at \$7.75; cows \$6.00 to \$6.25. Light runs of cattle since Monday have surprised nobody. The eagerness in the market Monday was due to the fact that buyers are not anxious bidders this week. This condition can be accounted for largely to the condition of the lumber trade. Practically all the lumber camps have been shut down, after opening, on account of the severe snow in the timber.

WOODBURN HIGH SCHOOL

As soon as the weather permits, work will be begun on the foundation of the new high school building and pushed to completion. The building will be ready for occupancy before the opening of next year's term of school. That it will draw a large number of pupils from the outside is confidently expected. The general building contract was given to E. B. White of Portland, at \$25,379. The heating and ventilating plant contract was awarded to Finne and Sons & Hill, of Portland, at \$4,500. E. G. Emmett, Woodburn, got the plumbing contract, his figures being \$2,085. Final action on the part of the board makes a change in the figures given in last week's issue. There was received on the bonds voted and negotiated \$40,000 and \$1,301 premium, making a total of \$41,301. In addition to this the board will draw about \$400 interest on the money placed in banks before it is all withdrawn. For awhile, during the deliberations, it looked as if such a building could not be constructed for less than \$5,000 over the sum allotted, but second consideration and a few unimportant changes brought the required result.—Independent.

Indian Not Vanishing

Says Doctor Laffin

Portland, Or., Jan. 22.—The Indian isn't a vanishing race. Their rate of increase in the Pacific northwest is greater than that of the whites, declares Dr. C. J. Laffin. For seven years Dr. Laffin has been physician in charge of the Warm Springs Indian reservation. Today he is in Portland on route to the Fort Defiance, Ariz. agency to look after the Navajos. "From a death rate of 41 per thousand and we have cut it down to 21 per thousand," said Dr. Laffin. If the present rate of increase continues Dr. Laffin says mathematically there will be more Indians than whites in the northwest in a thousand years or so.

Will Bare Mysteries of the Black Hand

San Francisco, Jan. 22.—All the mysticism, all the terror of the black hand will be laid bare before the federal grand jury Monday, following partial preservation of evidence already in. Evidence now at hand shows that the federal government, after being driven from New York, has created a virtual flood of terror along the Pacific coast. One point in the information declares that in Milwaukee the plotters held sessions in a church, while pretending to be worshippers. From evidence in the trial of Paul Terross, charged with sending a black hand letter, the authorities hope to get fresh light on the ramifications of the order. This trial will be resumed Monday.

WILL STOP HIS RUNNING

Reno, Nev., Jan. 22.—J. J. Vernon, convicted of horse stealing and under sentence to serve a year at San Quentin, today faces arraignment of both feet as the result of a dash for liberty over the snow. Vernon jumped from a moving train west of here as he was being taken to prison. The mercury was below zero at the time. Everything can be overcome. Many a fellow has been fired with enthusiasm by his boss.

NORWAY TOWN BURNS

Christiansia, Jan. 22.—Two thousand persons are homeless today as the result of a fire that wrecked the noted tourist town of Molde, southwest of here.

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We have all kinds of Axes, Sledges, Wedges, Saws and Equipments for the woods. All kinds of Corrugated Iron for both Roofs and Buildings. A good \$500.00 Laundry Mangle, slightly used for one-fourth original cost. \$15 AND \$20 NEW OVERCOATS AT \$5.00. I pay 1-2 cents per pound for old rags. I pay highest price for hides and fur.
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